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PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Friday, 11 December 1998

SECURITY COUNCIL

10.30 a.m.	consultations of the whole (closed)	Consultation Room

Report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998) and 1203 (1998) of the Security Council (S/1998/1147)

Other matters

Announcement

A formal meeting of the Security Council will be held on Wednesday, 16 December 1998, at 10.30 a.m. in the Security Council Chamber, to consider the agenda item entitled "Maintenance of peace and security and post-conflict peace-building". The list of speakers is open for inscriptions. Interested delegations may contact the Secretariat at telephone No. (212) 963-5257 or Room S-3520D.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

10 a.m.	89th PLENARY MEETING*	Conference Room 4
3 p.m.	90th PLENARY MEETING*	Conference Room 4

Fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [46 (a)]**

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* A live webcast of the plenary meeting will be available on the United Nations Website on the Internet at the following address: http://www.un.org/rights/50/anniversary.htm

** See list of speakers below (some of the speakers listed may have already made statements at the 88th plenary meeting). At its 76th plenary meeting on 2 December 1998, the General Assembly decided that statements made in the plenary during the commemoration would be limited to five minutes.

List of speakers for the commemoration

43. Ukraine
44. Liechtenstein
45. Bangladesh
46. India
47. Egypt
48. Belarus
49. Guyana
50. United Arab Emirates
51. El Salvador
52. Cyprus
53. Kazakhstan
54. Paraguay
55. Uruguay
56. Lebanon
57. Burkina Faso
58. Poland (H.E. Mr. Janusz Stańczyk, Deputy Foreign Minister)
59. Germany
60. Senegal (H.E. Mr. Jacques Baudin, Minister for Foreign Affairs)
61. Solomon Islands
62. South Africa
63. Turkey
64. Philippines
65. Georgia
66. Republic of Korea
67. Morocco
68. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
69. Côte d'Ivoire
70. Israel
71. Malaysia
72. Namibia
73. Yemen
74. Islamic Republic of Iran
75. Czech Republic
76. Myanmar
77. Hungary
78. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
79. Republic of Moldova
80. Russian Federation
81. Sri Lanka
82. Viet Nam
83. Bahrain

84. Cameroon
85. Armenia
86. Latvia
87. Samoa
88. Haiti
89. Azerbaijan
90. Honduras
91. Bulgaria
92. Indonesia
93. Fiji
94. United Republic of Tanzania
95. Liberia
96. Lesotho
97. Niger
98. Dominican Republic
99. Guatemala
100. Italy
101. Jamaica
102. Maldives
103. Qatar
104. Panama
105. Mali
106. Eritrea
107. Lao People's Democratic Republic
108. Democratic Republic of the Congo
109. Gabon
110. Mauritania
111. Mauritius
112. Sudan
113. Ethiopia
114. Swaziland
115. Kuwait
116. Nicaragua
117. Sierra Leone
118. Iraq
119. Bhutan
120. Afghanistan

1. Switzerland
2. Holy See
3. International Committee of the Red Cross
4. Latin American Parliament (Mr. Juan Adolfo Singer, MP, President)
5. Sovereign Military Order of Malta

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20)

3 p.m.	closed meeting	Economic and Social Council Chamber

Informal Consultations on draft proposals under item 20 and its sub-items will be conducted by H.E. Mr. Jørgen Bøjer (Denmark)

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda items 118 (Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/53/11)), 113 (Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: Development account and utilization of the development dividend (A/52/1009, A/53/7/Add.1, A/53/374, A/53/7/Add.4, A/C.5/53/30, A/53/664 and A/C.5/53/40)), 135 (Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (A/52/520, A/52/891, A/C.5/52/47, A/C.5/53/12, A/C.5/53/13 and A/53/651)) and 137 (Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (A/52/520, A/52/784, A/C.5/52/48, A/C.5/53/14, A/C.5/53/15 and Corr.1 (French only) and A/53/659))

3 p.m.-6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda items 113 (Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice (A/C.5/53/11 and A/53/7/Add.6); First performance report (A/53/693 and A/53/7/Add.8); Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1998 (A/C.5/53/2), Relationship between the treatment of perennial activities in the programme budget and the use of the contingency fund (A/C.5/52/42 and A/53/7/Add.9); and Tenth progress report of the Secretary-General on the Integrated Management Information System (A/53/573, A/53/662 and A/53/7/Add.8)) and 112 (Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations: Proposed budget outline for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/53/220 and A/53/718 and Corr.1))

6.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda items 119 (Human resources management (A/53/642, A/53/501, A/C.5/52/2, A/52/814, A/53/266, A/53/327, A/53/342, A/53/375 and Corr.1 and Corr.2 (French only), A/53/385, A/53/414, A/53/502 and Add.1, A/53/526 and Add.1, A/53/548, A/C.5/53/L.3, A/C.5/53/34 and Corr.1 and A/53/691)) and 120 (United Nations common system (A/53/30 and Corr.1, A/52/811, A/C.5/53/4, A/C.5/53/27 and A/53/688))

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subjects

1. Meeting with the Director of the Budget Division
2. World Food Programme

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Committee on Non-governmental Organizations will hold an informal meeting with the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, open to all delegations and non-governmental organizations, *today*, 11 December 1998, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Economic and Social Chamber.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will take place over the whole day *today*, 11 December 1998, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Kamal (Pakistan).

The meeting will be devoted to the Year 2000 Issue. It will focus on international cooperation, contingency planning for priority sectors and crisis management.

National Y2K Coordinators from all Member States have been invited. In order to help the developing countries and countries in transition ensure their participation, limited funding to cover costs of travel and stay has been made available by the Trust Fund of the World Bank on a first- come-first-served basis. All delegations are invited to participate.

Permanent missions must ensure that standard delegation passes are obtained and other logistic arrangements are made for their participating representatives.

Further information can be requested from the Information Technology Services Division of the Office of Central Support Services of the Secretariat (Mr. Eduardo Blinder (tel.: 212-963-8194, fax: 212-963-0952, e-mail: blinder@un.org)).

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

The announcements in this section are reproduced as received. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Friday, 11 December 1998

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

ORIENTATION COURSE ON
THE SECURITY COUNCIL
FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8

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Informal presentation

A presentation on "Science for the Sustainability Transition", organized by the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), will be given by Professor William Clark, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, *today*, 11 December 1998, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room D. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

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Announcement

As from Wednesday, 2 December 1998, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place at 1.15 p.m., or shortly after the adjournment of the informal consultations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Saturday, 12 December 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE

11 a.m.-2 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
6.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Monday, 14 December 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
6.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

3 p.m.	2nd meeting	Conference Room 6

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Resumed substantive session of 1998

Informal consultations will take place, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Vice-President of the Council, on Monday, 14 December 1998, at 4.30 p.m. in Conference Room 7, on implementation of resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B.

Informal consultations will take place, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. F. Paolo Fulci (Italy), Vice-Chairman of the Council, on Tuesday, 15 December 1998, at 4 p.m. in Conference Room 6, on all matters before the resumed substantive session of the Council.

The resumed substantive session of the Economic and Social Council will take place on Wednesday, 16 December, at 3 p.m. and Thursday, 17 December 1998, *at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.* in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

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Informal consultations on consumer protection guidelines for sustainable consumption will be held by Mr. Navid Hanif (Pakistan), Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Sustainable Development, on Monday, 14 December 1998, at 3 p.m., Thursday, 17 December, at 10 a.m. and on Friday, 18 December, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. All meetings will be held in Conference Room 8.

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The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations will hold its resumed 1998 session from 14 to 18 December 1998 in Conference Room 1. The agenda is contained in document E/C.2/1998/1.

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United Nations Children's Fund

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Pre-session meeting

An informal pre-session information briefing on major issues before the UNICEF Executive Board at its first regular session (19-22 and 25 January 1999) will take place on Tuesday, 5 January 1999, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. The provisional annotated agenda and organization of work are contained in document E/ICEF/1999/2. All delegations are invited to attend.

First regular session for 1999

The first regular session of the UNICEF Executive Board will take place from 19 to 22 and 25 January 1999 in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. The provisional annotated agenda and organization of work are contained in document E/ICEF/1999/2. Delegations are requested to fax their credentials to the secretariat of UNICEF (212-326-7096) as soon as possible, but no later than 14 January 1999.

In accordance with rule 50 (2) of the rules of procedure and its annex, observer delegations are also requested to communicate, with their credentials, their special interest in the items of the provisional agenda on which they intend to intervene.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

The announcements in this section are reproduced as received. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

There will be a meeting of the Group of 77 *(on the Commission on Sustainable Development : consumer protection guidelines for sustainable development)* on Monday, 14 December 1998, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 7.

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There will be a meeting of the Joint Coordinating Committee of the Non-aligned Movement and the Group of 77 on Monday, 14 December 1998, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 4.

* * *

Informal meetings

There will be a meeting of the group of interested States established in pursuance of operative paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 52/38 G (Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures) on Monday 14 December 1998, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Conference Room C. The meeting will hear briefings on the "Training for trainers" seminar held in Yaoundé (27-31 July 1998), the workshop on "Weapons collection and integration of former combatants in Central America" held in Guatemala (18-20 November 1998) and the implementation of the Pilot Project on Weapons Collection in Albania. The meeting is open to all interested delegations.

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An informal meeting on the forthcoming Donors Conference on "Mobilization of Resources for the Implementation of the SIDS Programme of Action for Sustainable Development", organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will be held on Monday, 14 December 1998, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Economic and Social Chamber.

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The Interim Steering Committee of the Millennium NGO Forum will hold a meeting on the theme "Process, Structure and Content of the Proposed Millennium NGO Forum" on Thursday, 17 December 1998, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Conference Room 6. Representatives of all non-governmental organizations, as well as interested members of permanent missions and Secretariat staff, are invited to attend.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Wednesday, 9 December 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

85th plenary meeting

Reports of the Third Committee

The Rapporteur of the Third Committee introduced the reports of the Third Committee on agenda items 100 to 110 and 12.

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family: report of the Third Committee (A/53/615) [100]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/53/615) (resolution 53/109).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 100.

Crime prevention and criminal justice: report of the Third Committee (A/53/616) [101]

The General Assembly adopted draft resolutions I to V recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 18 of its report (A/53/616) (resolutions 53/110, 53/111, 53/112, 53/113 and 53/114).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 101.

International drug control: report of the Third Committee (A/53/617) [102]

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/53/617) (resolution 53/115).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 102.

Advancement of women: report of the Third Committee (A/53/618) [103]

The General Assembly adopted draft resolutions I to IV recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 18 of its report (A/53/618) (resolutions 53/116, 53/117, 53/118 and 53/119).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 103.

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women [104]:

(a) Report of the Third Committee (A/53/619)

(b) Amendment (A/53/L.69)

The General Assembly adopted the amendment (A/53/L.69) to the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 10 of its report (A/53/619).

The Assembly adopted the draft resolution as amended (resolution 53/120).

The representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in explanation of vote.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 104.

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions: report of the Third Committee (A/53/620) [105]

The General Assembly adopted draft resolutions I to VI recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of its report (A/53/620) (resolutions 53/121, 53/122, 53/123, 53/124, 53/125 and 53/126).

The representative of Armenia made a statement in explanation of vote.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 105.

Promotion and protection of the rights of children: report of the Third Committee (A/53/621) [106]

Statements on points of order were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Argentina, Cuba, El Salvador and the Sudan.

The General Assembly adopted draft resolution I recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 13 of its report (A/53/621) (resolution 53/127) and draft resolution II also recommended by the Third Committee in the same paragraph of the same report and as orally corrected by the Rapporteur (resolution 53/128).

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 14 of the same report.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 106.

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People: report of the Third Committee (A/53/622) [107]

The General Assembly adopted draft resolutions I and II recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 10 of its report (A/53/622) (resolutions 53/129 and 53/130).

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 11 of the same report.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 107.

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination [108]:

(a) Report of the Third Committee (A/53/623)

(b) Report of the Fifth Committee (A/53/727)

The General Assembly adopted draft resolutions I to III recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 17 of its report (A/53/623) (resolutions 53/131, 53/132 and 53/133).

The Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 108.

Right of peoples to self-determination: report of the Third Committee (A/53/624) [109]

The General Assembly proceeded to take action on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 14 of its report (A/53/624).

	Yes	*Against*	*Abstentions*
Draft resolution I (resolution 53/134)		adopted	
Draft resolution II (recorded vote) (resolution 53/135)	115	18	35
Draft resolution III (recorded vote) (resolution 53/136)	162	2	6

The representative of Australia made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 109.

Human rights questions: report of the Third Committee (A/53/625) [110]

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in its report (A/53/625).

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments:

(i) Report of the Third Committee (A/53/625/Add.1)

(ii) Report of the Fifth Committee (A/53/728)

The representative of the Sudan made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

The General Assembly proceeded to take action on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 21of its report (A/53/625/Add.1).

	Yes	*Against*	*Abstentions*
Draft resolution I (resolution 53/137)		adopted	
Draft resolution II (recorded vote) (resolution 53/138)	104	7	44
Draft resolution III (resolution 53/139)		adopted	

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of subitem (a) of agenda item 110.

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms:

(i) Report of the Third Committee (A/53/625/Add.2)

(ii) Amendment (A/53/L.70)

The representative of South Africa made a statement in the course of which he introduced the amendment (A/53/L.70) to draft resolution XV and also revised the amendment.

The representative of Egypt made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

The General Assembly proceeded to take action on the sixteen draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 49 of its report (A/53/625/Add.2) and on the amendment (A/53/L.70) to draft resolution XV.

	Yes	*Against*	*Abstentions*
Draft resolution I (resolution 53/140)		adopted	
Draft resolution II (recorded vote) (resolution 53/141)	110	45	10

Draft resolution III (resolution 53/142)		adopted	
Draft resolution IV (recorded vote) (resolution 53/143)	103	2	66
Draft resolution V (resolution 53/144)		adopted	
Draft resolution VI (resolution 53/145)		adopted	
Draft resolution VII (resolution 53/146)		adopted	
Draft resolution VIII (resolution 53/147)		adopted	
Draft resolution IX (resolution 53/148)		adopted	
Draft resolution X (resolution 53/149)		adopted	
Draft resolution XI (resolution 53/150)		adopted	
Draft resolution XII (resolution 53/151)		adopted	
Draft resolution XIII (resolution 53/152)		adopted	
Draft resolution XIV (resolution 53/153)		adopted	
Draft resolution XV Amendment (A/53/L.70) as orally revised		adopted	
Draft resolution XV (as amended) (resolution 53/154)		adopted	
Draft resolution XVI (recorded vote) (resolution 53/155)	125	1	42

Statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made by the representatives of the United States and Germany.

The representative of the Czech Republic made a statement on a point of order.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 110.

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives: report of the Third Committee (A/53/625/Add.3)

Statements in explanation of vote before the vote were made the representatives of Yemen, Pakistan and Albania.

The General Assembly proceeded to take action on the ten draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 55 of its report (A/53/625/Add.3).

	Yes	*Against*	*Abstentions*
Draft resolution I (resolution 53/156)		adopted	
Draft resolution II Operative paragraphs 4, 13, 15 and 17 (recorded vote)	93	2	57
Draft resolution II as a whole (recorded vote) (resolution 53/157)	103	3	56
Draft resolution III (recorded vote) (resolution 53/158)	64	41	56
Draft resolution IV (resolution 53/159)		adopted	

The representative of Austria made a statement on a point of order.

The General Assembly resumed action on the draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 55 of its report (A/53/625/Add.3).

	Yes	*Against*	*Abstentions*
Draft resolution V (resolution 53/160)		adopted	
Draft resolution VI (resolution 53/161)		adopted	
Draft resolution VII (resolution 53/162)		adopted	
Draft resolution VIII (recorded vote) (resolution 53/163)	141	0	21
Draft resolution IX (recorded vote) (resolution 53/164)	122	3	34
Draft resolution X (resolution 53/165)		adopted	

Statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made the representatives of Benin, China, India, Lesotho and Vanuatu.

The representative of Afghanistan made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 110.

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action: report of the Third Committee (A/53/625/Add.4)

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 7 of its report (A/53/625/Add.4) (resolution 53/166).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 110.

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: report of the Third Committee (A/53/625/Add.5)

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 10 of its report (A/53/625/Add.5) (resolution 53/167).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 110.

The Assembly thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 110 as a whole.

Report of the Economic and Social Council: report of the Third Committee (A/53/614) [12]

The General Assembly adopted draft decisions I and II recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 8 of its report (A/53/614).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of all the chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council allocated to the Third Committee.

The Assembly thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Third Committee before it.

Thursday, 10 December 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

86th plenary meeting

Fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: draft resolution (A/53/L.67) [46 (a)]

The President made a statement.

The Secretary-General made a statement.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement.

The General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/53/L.67 (resolution 53/168).

On the occasion of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, six prizes were awarded to individuals who had made outstanding contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The prizes were awarded to Ms. Sunila Abeyesekera (Sri Lanka), Ms. Angeline Acheng Atyam (Uganda), Mr. Jimmy Carter (United States of America) (in absentia), Mr. Jose Gregori (Brazil), Ms. Anna Sabatová (Czech Republic), and to the Human Right Defenders of the World.

The General Assembly continued its commemorative meeting devoted to the observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Canada, the United States, the Rt. Hon. Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development of the United Kingdom, Her Excellency Ms. Hilde Johnson, Minister for International Development and Human Rights of Norway, the representatives of Japan, Austria (on behalf of the European Union), New Zealand, Her Excellency Mrs. Cholpon Bayekova, President of the Constitutional Court of Kyrgyzstan, Her Excellency Ms. Carmen Moreno de Del Cueto, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, Jordan, Australia, Andorra and Oman.

The observer of Palestine made a statement.

87th and 88th plenary meetings

Note: The summary of the 87th and 88th plenary meetings of the General Assembly will appear in the next issue of the *Journal* (No 1998/239).

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE 42nd meeting

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors [111]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Zimbabwe, Coordinator of informal con- sultations on this item, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.16.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The representative of Mexico made a statement.

The representative of the United States made a statement in explanation of position.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item at this stage.

Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola [123] *(A/52/799/Add.1 and A/53/722)*

The Committee began its consideration of this agenda item.

The report of the Secretary-General was contained in document A/52/799/Add.1.

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced the report of that Committee (A/53/722).

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion of this item.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this item would begin the same day, 10 December, following the adjournment of the formal meeting, under the chairmanship of Mr. Lovemore Mazemo (Zimbabwe).

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [113]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Financial arrangements associated with the dining room at the International Court of Justice

The Chairman of the Committee introduced draft decision A/C.5/53/L.17.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Integrated Management Information Systems independent experts study (A/53/662, A/53/573 and A/53/7/ Add.7)

The Assistant Secretary-General for Central and Support Services introduced the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the forward-looking study of the Integrated Management Information System conducted by independent experts (A/53/662).

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion on this report.

Relationship between the treatment of perennial activities in the programme budget and the use of the contingency fund (A/C.5/52/42 and A/53/7/Add.9)

The report of the Secretary-General was contained in document (A/C.5/52/42).

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced the report of that Committee (A/53/7/Add.9).

Statements were made by the representatives Austria (on behalf of the European Union and also on behalf of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Cyprus, Liechtenstein and Norway), Cuba and the United States.

At the request of the representative of Cuba, the Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this question would be held in the context of the ongoing consultations of the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999.

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security(A/C.5/53/45 and A/53/ 734)

The Committee had before it the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/53/L.66 (A/C.5/53/45).

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced and orally corrected the report of that Committee (A/53/734).

The representative of Pakistan made a statement.

The Chairman informed the Committee that it would revert to this question at a later stage.

Consolidation of technical secretariat servicing of intergovernmental bodies (A/53/452)

The Assistant Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services introduced the report of the Secretary-General (A/53/452).

Following a proposal by the Chairman, the representative of Cuba made a statement.

On a proposal by the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/53/452) and to revert to this question as appropriate.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question at this stage.

Letter dated 29 October 1998 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/53/31)

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to a letter addressed to him from the President of the General Assembly transmitting a letter from the Chairman of the Sixth Committee concerning the observations submitted by the International Court of Justice in response to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 52/161.

Following a proposal by the Chairman, the Committee agreed, to take note of the letter from the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.5/53/31).

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [112]

More coherence for enhanced oversight in the United Nations System (A/53/171/Add.1)

The Under-Secretary-General for Management introduced the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (A/53/171/Add.1) on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "More coherence for enhanced oversight in the United Nations system" (A/53/171).

Statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, Cuba and the United States.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion on this report at this stage.

Other matters

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions made a statement regarding the concerns expressed at the Committee's 39th meeting on 4 December on the question of the presentation of oral reports by that Committee.

Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, Austria, Pakistan, Cameroon, Uganda, the Bahamas and New Zealand.

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee responded to questions posed.

The Chairman also made a statement.

The representative of Portugal requested a conference room paper on the standards of accommodation for air travel and other travel related issues to be submitted to the resumed session of the Fifth Committee.

Organization of work

The Chairman made a statement.

Statements were also made by the representatives of Cameroon and Uganda.

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. New York, 16 December 1966

Accession: Liechtenstein (10 December 1998)*

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. New York, 16 December 1966

Accession: Liechtenstein (10 December 1998)*

Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. New York, 15 December 1989

Accession: Liechtenstein (10 December 1998)*

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. New York, 7 March 1966

Ratification: Lithuania (10 December 1998)*

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. New York, 16 December 1966

Accession: Liechtenstein (10 December 1998)*

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Copenhagen, 25 November 1992

Accession: Indonesia (10 December 1998)*

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* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa. Paris, 14 October 1994

Accession: Sri Lanka (9 December 1998)*

Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 16 May 1998

Acceptance: Finland (14 July 1998)*
Acceptance: Bahrain (20 July 1998)*
Acceptance: Tajikistan (21 July 1998)*
Acceptance: Thailand (4 August 1998)*
Acceptance: Peru (19 August 1998)*
Acceptance: Samoa (19 August 1998)*
Acceptance: Dominica (26 August 1998)*
Acceptance: Micronesia (Federated States of) (9 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Benin (10 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Seychelles (10 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Zimbabwe (14 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Comoros (15 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Sweden (16 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Côte d'Ivoire (24 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Angola (29 September 1998)*
Acceptance: Vanuatu (5 October 1998)*
Acceptance: Democratic People's Republic of Korea (7 October 1998)*

* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

Acceptance: Lebanon (21 October 1998)*
Acceptance: Slovenia (21 October 1998)*
Acceptance: Ghana (5 November 1998)*
Acceptance: Mali (5 November 1998)*
Acceptance: Palau (5 November 1998)*
Acceptance: San Marino (5 November 1998)*
Acceptance: China (6 November 1998)*
Acceptance: Switzerland (13 November 1998)*
Acceptance: Oman (4 December 1998)*
Acceptance: Singapore (4 December 1998)*
Acceptance: Greece (7 December 1998)*

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Rome, 17 July 1998

Signature: Colombia (10 December 1998)
Signature: Germany (10 December 1998)
Signature: Lithuania (10 December 1998)

Amendments to articles 3 (5) and 9 (8) of the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Colombo, 2º November 1991

Ratification: Bhutan (8 December 1998)*
Accession: Sri Lanka (9 December 1998)*

* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

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